

Message Text

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TAGS: ELAB, OECD

SUBJECT: MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING, JULY 9-12

REF:

A) USOECD 06685

B) A-85

C) STATE 134163

D) US STATEMENT ON 1974 PROGRAM AND FUTURE ORIENTATION, JULY 2, 1973

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, KOLBERG AND STEWART, FMS FOR USERY, CEA FOR STEIN (PARA 6)

SUMMARY: THE COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON THE NEW EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL PROBLEMS

AND POLICY IN BOTH ITS 1974 AND LONG RANGE PROGRAMS. THE 1974 PROGRAM WAS APPROVED WITH ONE MINOR CHANGE IN THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AREA, BUT THE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED ITS ACTING CHAIRMAN TO EXPRESS CONCERN TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL THAT THE PROPOSED RESOURCES UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR 1974 PROGRAM WERE INADEQUATE TO MEET THE NEW SOCIAL PRIORITIES

SET BY THE COUNCIL OR TO MEET THE NEEDS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN A TIMELY WAY. THE ACTING CHAIRMAN'S LETTER IS A COMMUNICATION BETWEEN

THE COMMITTEE AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND DOES NOT BIND MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. THE SECRETARIAT WILL DRAFT A STATEMENT OF THE LONG TERM PROGRAM (1975-77), INCLUDING A STATEMENT OF BASIC PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE WORK, IT WILL ALSO DRAFT ITS PROPOSALS FOR REVISION

OF THE COUNCIL'S 1964 RECOMMENDATION FOR AN ACTIVE MANPOWER POLICY. THE SPECIAL WORKING PARTY OF THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU WILL REVIEW THESE DRAFTS IN MID-OCTOBER AND THE COMMITTEE EXPECTS TO APPROVE THE LONG RANGE PROGRAM AT ITS NEXT SESSION IN THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19

AT THE REQUEST OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT, THE IRISH MANPOWER POLICY EXAMINATION WAS POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING. THE COMMITTEE WAS UNABLE TO COMPLETE THE DANISH EXAMINATION, MEMBERS MAY SEND FURTHER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED CONCLUSIONS TO THE SECRETARIAT. THE COMMITTEE REELECTED ITS CHAIRMAN FALCHI (ITALY) AND VICE-CHAIRMAN STEWART (US). END SUMMARY

2. THE 1974 PROGRAM - MO (73) 12

THE COMMITTEE MADE ONLY ONE CHANGE IN THE DRAFT PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1974. AT THE REQUEST OF THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE, PARAGRAPH 20 WAS AMENDED SO THAT THE LAST SENTENCE NOW READS " IN THAT CONTEXT OECD WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO COOPERATE WITH THE SAME ORGANIZATIONS IN SYSTEMATIC COMPARISONS OF THE LEVELS OF LABOR COSTS IN DIFFERENT COUN-

TRIES, AN IMPORTANT ITEM IN DISCUSSIONS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMPETITION". THE COMMITTEE EXAMINED EACH ITEM OF THE 1974 PROGRAM AND DECIDED NONE COULD BE DROPPED AND THAT ALL ITEMS WERE OF EQUAL PRIORITY. THUS ANY IMPOSITION OF PRIORITIES WILL BE DONE BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE REJECTED A NUMBER OF PROPOSED ADDITIONS AND ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THE SOCIAL EMPHASIS OF THE LONG TERM PROGRAM WAS ADEQUATELY REFLECTED IN THE WORK FOR 1974.

3. THE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED ITS ACTING CHAIRMAN (STEWART US) TO CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL THE COMMITTEE'S CONCERN THAT THE RESOURCES PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE 1974 PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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(ONE PROFESSIONAL STAFF POSITION FOR THE SOCIAL INDICATORS AND AN OVERALL INCREASE OF FF 100,000) WERE INADEQUATE. IN PARTICULAR, THE COMMITTEE REFERRED TO THE NEED RESOURCES TO MEET NEW PRIORITIES IN THE

FIELD OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND POLICY OUTLINED BY THE COUNCIL IN ITS IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE'S PROGRAM LAST JANUARY THE COUNCIL DECISION TO MOVE AHEAD ON SOCIAL INDICATORS AT AN ACCELERATED PACE, AND AN IMMINENT STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL CALLING FOR

INCREASED
EFFORTS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND THE
LABOR MARKET. THE COMMITTEE FELT THE 1974 PROGRAM WAS A
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TRANSITION TO A LONG TERM PROGRAM REFLECTING INCREASING
PRIORITY BY OECD ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS, AND THAT FAILURE TO
SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE RESOURCES FOR THE 1974 PROGRAM WOULD
AFFECT THE LONG RANGE PROGRAM. THE COMMITTEE' S VIEWS DO
NOT BIND MEMBER GOVERNMENTS IN THE BUDGET COMMITTEE; THEY
ARE INTENDED TO INFLUENCE THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S FORTHCOMING
BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR 1974.

4. COMMENT - THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MSAC BUREAU'S SPECIAL
WP IN THE DRAFTING OF THE ACTING CHAIRMAN' S LETTER TO THE
SECRETARY GENERAL AND IN THE FORTHCOMING DRAFTING OF THE LONG
TERM PROGRAM AND REVISION OF THE 1964 COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION,
IS NOTEWORTHY. COMPOSED OF THE CHAIRMAN (ITALY), VICE-CHAIRMAN
(USA, AND CANADA, JAPAN, SPAIN, DENMARK, FRANCE, AND LUXEMBOURG,
THE SPECIAL WP COULD SERVE A USEFUL ROLE AS CATALYST AND
COORDINATOR BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND THE SECRETARIAT.

5. LONG TERM PROGRAM -

SEVERAL CONCLUSIONS EMERGED FROM THE LONG AND AT TIMES RAMBLING
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DISCUSSION OF HOW THE COMMITTEE SHOULD REORIENT ITS FUTURE WORK:

1) THE COMMITTEE REJECTED AN EXPANSION OF ITS FUTURE PROGRAM INTO STARTLING NEW AREAS SUCH AS HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY AND FAMILY POLICY; THUS THE MIX OF PROJECTS IN THE FORTHCOMING LONG RANGE PROGRAM IS LIKELY TO REFLECT GREATER EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL POLICY BUT THE NATURE OF WORK PROJECTS IS NOT LIKELY TO VARY FUNDAMENTALLY FROM THOSE IN THE 1974 PROGRAM;
2) THE CONSENSUS DID NOT FAVOR USING A GROUP OF OUTSIDE "WISE MEN" UNTIL THE COMMITTEE ITSELF HAD FIRST TRIED TO DEFINE ITS LONG RANGE ORIENTATION; A KEY PART OF THIS NEW ORIENTATION WILL BE A STATEMENT OF "PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES" FOR FUTURE WORK; AND 3) THE CONSENSUS WAS AGAINST A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN 1974 AND AGAINST A MEETING THEREAFTER UNLESS MARITED BY AN APPROPRIATE AGENDA (THE COMMITTEE DID NOT CONSIDER THE US-PROPOSED DISTINCTION BETWEEN "MINISTERIAL" AND "MINISTERIAL SPECIAL LEVEL"). ON METHODS OF WORK, THE COMMITTEE REJECTED A SWISS PROPOSAL FOR THEMATIC SESSIONS FOCUSSED CONSECUTIVELY ON THE THREE MAIN AREAS OF WORK: MANPOWER, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

6. THE US STATEMENT ON THE 1974 PROGRAM AND FUTURE ORIENTATION
(REF D)

THE STATEMENT ON THE ECONOMIC ROLE OF WOMEN WAS REPLACED WITH THE WORDING IN REF C. THE US STATEMENT ON RESOURCES (PARA 14) WAS AMENDED TO READ: "THE TIME HAS NOW COME, IN THE VIEW OF THE US DELEGATION, TO REALLOCATE FUNDS IN LINE WITH NEW TASKS FOLLOWING FROM THE CHANGED ORIENTATION OF THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION. AS WE REVIEW THE PROGRAM NEEDS IN THE FIELD OF MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, THE IMPORTANCE THE ORGANIZATION ATTACHES TO THE NEW SOCIAL POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE IS QUITE OUT OF LINE WITH FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE--EVEN WITH FURTHER CUTTING OF OLD ACTIVITIES, WHICH WE SUGGEST BELOW."

7. ENTERPRISE MANPOWERMANAGEMENT - MS/M/203/434)

THE WP WILL MEET LATER THIS YEAR BUT MOST OF THE WORK WILL BE DONE IN 1974; THE FINAL REPORT IS EXPECTED IN EARLY 1975.
WP MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE NATIONAL REPORTS. COMMITTEE GUIDANCE TO THE SECRETARIAT ON FOCUSING THIS PROJECT INCLUDED SUGGESTIONS FOR ADJUSTING THE LEVEL OF TRAINING PROGRAMS TO THE
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PHASES OF THE BUSINESS CYCLE AND FOR BETTER AGGREGATE LABOR MARKET FORECASTING. THERE WERE US PROPOSALS FOR EXAMINING GOVERNMENT POLICIES, TO ASSIST FIRMS (1) IN IMPROVING THEIR MANPOWER POLICIES, (2) TO MOVE PEOPLE OUT OF DEAD-END JOBS BY TRAINING AND UP-GRADING OF JOBS, (3) TO PROMOTE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND (4) TO RESPOND TO MAJOR JOB DISPLACEMENTS CAUSED BY TRADE COMPETITION, HIGHER ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AND LARGE SCALE CLOSURE OF MILITARY BASES.

8. DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS - MO (73)2

THE UK RESERVED ITS POSITION ON PUBLICATION IN ORDER TO CONSIDER FURTHER THE SECTION ON THE UK; ALL OTHER MEMBERS FAVORED PUBLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO PUBLICATION AFTER ALL MEMBERS HAD APPROVED THE NATIONAL REPORTS IN PART II. BROWN

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